

# Citizens' Direct Congressional Lobbying for Climate Solutions



# The Results are In

- \* 5<sup>th</sup> IPCC Report
- \* 97% Confidence
- \* Weather Patterns
- \* Time for Action



# Why the Skepticism?

- \* How do we connect with people?
- \* Listen to folks
- \* Ask Why
- \* Fear is the primary factor
- \* Fear of Government, loss of rights, etc.



# The Change in Opinion

- \* Yale Climate Map
- \* Over 50% agree climate change is real
- \* In every Congressional District
- \* NC – 62%
- \* SC – 58%
- \* US – 63% Yes
- \* US – 18 % No



# Creating Political Will

- \* Politicians do not create political will
- \* They respond to it
- \* How do we generate political will?



# Methodology

- \* Polite, Respectful and Persistent
  - \* Rep. Ellmers
  - \* Rep. Jones
- \* Organize by Congressional District
- \* Engage Constituents
- \* The role of Citizens Lobbyists



# Successes

- \* National Citizen Action in 2015
- \* 1,245 Lobby Meetings
- \* 16,476 Letter to Members of Congress
- \* 3,647 Published Media
- \* 1,934 Outreach Events
- \* Bipartisan Climate Solutions Caucus
- \* Senate Energy and Environmental Working Group
  - \* Formed by Sen. Lindsey Graham

# What is your Challenge?

- \* What have you found to be the biggest obstacle in your role to addressing climate change?





# Questions?

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